

IN THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 26 ~~12~~, wherein the tread conveying device is positioned mobile for displacing the discharge side with a directional component parallel to the axis of rotation of the building drum.

15. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 14, wherein the tread conveying device is rotatably positioned about an axis of rotation substantially perpendicular to the displacement direction, ~~preferably substantially perpendicular to the plane of the tread.~~

16. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 15 ~~14~~, wherein the tread conveying device is positioned with the axis of rotation near the feed side for rotating the tread conveying device substantially parallel to a tread to be applied, ~~preferably with the axis of rotation substantially in the middle below a tread to be applied.~~

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 26 ~~12~~, comprising means for securing

a segment of a tread, ~~preferably a tread over its full surface, on the tread conveying device.~~

19. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 26 ~~12~~, further comprising further measuring means for determining the length of a tread.

20. (Original) Device according to claim 19, further comprising means for adapting the length of a tread based on the result of the difference between the length measured and a predetermined set length.

21-25. (Cancelled)

26. (New) Tread application system comprising:

a building drum for building a tire, and driving means for driving the building drum, said building drum having an axis of rotation,

a tread application device for applying a tread segment on the building drum, comprising:

a tread conveying device for conveying the tread to the building drum, from a feed side of the tread conveying device to a discharge side of the tread conveying device in a conveyance direction, comprising a main conveyor belt extending from the feed side to the discharge side in the conveyance direction, and a first feed auxiliary conveyor belt and a second feed auxiliary conveyor belt on opposite sides of the main conveyor belt, and a first discharge auxiliary conveyor belt and a second discharge auxiliary conveyor belt, each feed

auxiliary conveyor belt extending from the feed side in the conveyance direction, each discharge auxiliary conveyor belt extending in the conveyance direction towards the discharge side, the first feed auxiliary conveyor belt and the first discharge auxiliary conveyor belt extending in the conveyance direction in line with each other, are connected to each other by means of a toothed belt and are positioned at a short distance from each other for forming a first slit-shaped opening between the first feed auxiliary conveyor belt and the first discharge auxiliary conveyor belt, the second feed auxiliary conveyor belt and the second discharge auxiliary conveyor belt extending in the conveyance direction in line with each other, are connected to each other by means of a toothed belt and are positioned at a short distance from each other for forming a second slit-shaped opening between the second feed auxiliary conveyor belt and the second discharge auxiliary conveyor belt so that on both sides of the main conveyor belt a measuring slit is formed, wherein the main conveyor belt and both feed auxiliary conveyor belts share a common feed bearing roller and driving means, wherein the main conveyor belt and both discharge auxiliary conveyor belts share a common bearing roller, and measuring means above or below the measuring slit, said measuring means being positioned at the feed side for determining the position of a segment of the tread and generating data indicating a position value, and driving means for the tread conveying means, and displacement means for displacing the tread conveying means,

a computer provided with a memory and software and connection means for receiving data from the measuring means and for transmitting orders and data to the driving unit of the building drum, the driving means for the tread conveying means, the displacement means for displacing the conveying means, the computer controlling the driving means such that speeds of the main conveyor belt and all the auxiliary conveyor belts are equal, and

a positioning device for positioning the tread on the building drum, wherein the positioning device is connectable to the computer for receiving orders and data therefrom, said displacement means are adapted for displacing the segment of the tread with a displacement directional component parallel to the axis of rotation of the building drum, said computer on the basis of the position value controlling the displacement means during the application of the segment of the tread on the building drum.